CATHOLIC ACTION

ol. XXI, No. 10 OCTOBER, 1939

Our Higher Destiny

"THAT mankind through freedom and peace should advance in prosperity is a large and noble aim. But it is not the ultimate aim of human existence; nor is it the highest criterion whereby the value of all other ends and the worth of our striving for any of them can be rightly determined.

"IN the light of our higher destiny, we can judge and surely appraise the things which men desire, which they hate or despise or fear. We can see in their true perspective the manifold changes of the world, and in their right proportion its losses and gains, its achievements and failures. We can understand the confusion, the dismay and the dread of what may come, which have clouded the vision of many.

"TO those who imagine that humanity has outgrown the need of religion, that result is bewildering. To the Catholic mind it brings distress, but no perplexity. It repeats, with an emphasis proportioned to the weight of disaster the lesson which history has written again and again as the meaning of such upheavals."

—(*From the* 1919 *Bishops' Pastoral. See N. C. W. C. Study Outline entitled "Your Worth and Your Opportunity," pp.* 21-23.)

A NATIONAL MONTHLY—OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

N. C. C. W. Convention Number

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FACTS ABOUT THE

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

:-: *What It Is* — *What It Does* :-:

"This organization (the N. C. W. C.) *is not only useful, but necessary. . . . We praise all who in any way cooperate in this great work."*—POPE PIUS XI.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference was organized in September, 1919.

The N. C. W. C. is a common agency acting under the authority of the bishops to promote the welfare of the Catholics of the country.

It has for its incorporated purposes "unifying, coordinating and organizing the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid and other activities."

It comprises the following departments and bureaus:

EXECUTIVE—Bureaus maintained: *Immigration, Youth, National Center Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Catholic Information, Publications, Business and Auditing, and* CATHOLIC ACTION, *official organ, N. C. W. C.*

EDUCATION—Divisions: *Statistics and Information, Teachers' Registration, Library.*

PRESS—Serves the Catholic press in the United States and abroad with regular *news, features, editorial and pictorial services.*

SOCIAL ACTION—Covers the fields of *Industrial Relations, International Affairs, Civic Education, Social Welfare, Family Life and Rural Life.*

LEGAL—Serves as a clearing house of information on federal, state and local legislation.

LAY ORGANIZATIONS—Includes the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women, which maintain at N. C. W. C. headquarters permanent representations in the interests of the Catholic laity. These councils function through some 3,500 affiliated societies—national, state, diocesan, district, local and parish; also through units of the councils in many of the dioceses.

CATHOLIC ACTION STUDY—Devoted to research and reports as to pronouncements, methods, programs and achievements in the work of Catholic Action at home and abroad.

The N. C. C. M. maintains at its national headquarters a *Catholic Evidence Bureau,* sponsors a weekly nation-wide radio *Catholic Hour* over the network of the National Broadcasting Company, and conducts a Catholic Radio Bureau.

The N. C. C. W. maintains in Washington, D. C., the *National Catholic School of Social Service.*

The Conference is conducted by an administrative board composed of ten archbishops and bishops aided by seven assistant bishops.

Each department of the N. C. W. C. is administered by an episcopal chairman.

Through the general secretary, chief executive officer of the Conference, the reports of the departments and information on the general work of the headquarters' staff are sent regularly to the members of the administrative board.

The administrative bishops of the Conference report annually upon their work to the Holy See.

Annually at the general meeting of the bishops, detailed reports are submitted by the administrative bishops of the Conference and authorization secured for the work of the coming year.

No official action is taken by any N. C. W. C. department without authorization of its episcopal chairman.

No official action is taken in the name of the whole Conference without authorization and approval of the administrative board.

It is not the policy of the N. C. W. C. to create new organizations.

It helps, unifies, and leaves to their own fields those that already exist.

It aims to defend and to advance the welfare both of the Catholic Church and of our beloved Country.

It seeks to inform the life of America of right fundamental principles of religion and morality.

It is a central clearing house of information regarding activities of Catholic men and women.

All that are helped may play their part in promoting the good work and in maintaining the common agency, the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

CATHOLIC ACTION records monthly the work of the Conference and its affiliated organizations. It presents our common needs and opportunities. Its special articles are helpful to every Catholic organization and individual.

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CATHOLIC ACTION

CATHOLIC ACTION consists not merely of the pursuit of personal Christian perfection, which is however before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity, legitimately constituted and, as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops."

—Pope Pius XI.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

VOL. XXI, No. 10 — OCTOBER, 1939

OUR COMMON CATHOLIC INTERESTS

Resolutions Adopted at the 19th Annual Convention of the N. C. C. W.

NO MORE pertinent material could, in our opinion, be published in this section this month than the following texts of resolutions adopted by the National Council of Catholic Women at its Nineteenth Annual Convention, held in San Francisco, September 9-14, 1939. These resolutions, addressed particularly to the Catholic laywomen of the United States, nevertheless convey to all Catholics viewpoints and policies that should guide them in their local organization activities as well as in their individual thoughts and actions. The N. C. C. W. convention resolutions follow:

WOMEN IN THE MODERN WORLD: Our Holy Father, in his address to the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues states: "the collaboration of women seems to Us more opportune than ever:" "Women today, through extended participation in every field of human endeavor, exert a more direct and potent influence over social trends and policies: In response to the trust placed in us by our Holy Father and recognizing the responsibility that accompanies opportunity, we, the members of the National Council of Catholic Women, pledge ourselves anew to *prayer, study* and *action* under the guidance of our Bishops, for the advance of the Kingdom of Christ.

WAR IN EUROPE: In this sad hour when the awful ravagery of wholesale war rages across Europe and the foreboding clash of arms resounds in other parts of the world, we turn first, under the inspiration of our Holy Father and the guidance of our Bishops, to fervent prayer.

We affirm our belief that irreligion and a rising paganism, the flaunting of the clear commandments of God and contemptuous denial of the rights of the Church are the root causes of the present resort to arms.

We affirm further our conviction that, had the counsels and appeals of the Vicar of Christ, the President of the United States and the illustrious heads of other nations been heeded, there would not have been this fearful war with its ensuing devastation.

Now that the armies march, we join our Holy Father in most earnest prayer; that the madness of killing between nation and nation may be mercifully shortened; that while war lasts, every effort be made to minimize its horrors; and that when fighting shall have ceased, a just peace may be established in which disputes shall be resolved by Christian negotiation and accord.

We give thanks to God that our Government is determined to keep our country

HIS HOLINESS, POPE PIUS XII

THE National Council of Catholic Women, assembled in convention in San Francisco, September 9 to 14, expresses profound gratitude to His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, for the Apostolic Blessing from the Vatican and renews its pledge of affection and obedience.

MOST respectfully do we offer to the Sovereign Pontiff the pledge of our spiritual and moral union with him in his noble efforts to reestablish and promote universal peace and to this end we promise our continued supplications to the Prince of Peace.

neutral and hold itself ready to exercise its great moral influence toward a peaceful settlement. Wholeheartedly do we pledge our persevering support to our Government in all its efforts to secure the safety and honor of the nation and in particular in its endeavors to restore to the world the blessings of peace.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: Conscious that 10 years of grave unemployment could not have afflicted our country were the American people committed in their hearts to justice and the common good, we rededicate ourselves to zealous efforts to know and make known the saving principles of social justice that are outlined in the Encyclicals.

RACISM: In keeping with our belief in the brotherhood of all peoples in a common creation, a common Redemption, a common means of salvation, and a common destiny, we join with our Church in condemning all racism and all efforts to pit people against people and, as it were, read out of the human race great numbers of the children of God.

IMMIGRATION: Congress having failed to enact remedial legislation in behalf of the so-called "hardship cases," these aliens, illegally in the United States but of otherwise good character and in most instances having legally resident wives and American-born children, are finding it necessary to leave the country in order to regularize their status.

Be it resolved, therefore, that we urge our Senators and Representatives to enact legislation that will permit these aliens to regularize their status without leaving the United States and obtaining immigration visas, upon compliance with all the other requirements of our immigration laws.

CATHOLIC REFUGEES: Because of the Nazi Government's decrees, many German and Austrian and Czechoslovak Catholics have been either forced or found it advisable to leave their native lands. Present immigration restrictions of all countries, our own included, make it both difficult and expensive to find a haven.

We, the National Council of Catholic Women, therefore, pledge our heartfelt support to the Committee for Catholic Refugees from Germany, which has been charged by the Hierarchy with the duty of finding homes and means of livelihood for these unfortunate people, and promise to cooperate with the Committee in every way that we can.

NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN: For more than a decade the people of the United States have suffered and continue to endure acute economic distress.

Many thousands are unable to provide for themselves even necessary medical and hospital services.

Particularly in rural regions among tenant and destitute farmers the provisions of medical and hospital service is lacking.

We deplore and protest against the inhuman action of those who seek to remedy this situation by curtailing population increase, by encouraging poor families to use contraceptive devices and resort to sexual immoralities. Such a remedy is worse than the evil it would cure and persisted in would lower the self-respect and moral standards of those families precisely which contribute most to our population growth.

We call upon governments, Federal and state, especially upon the Federal Farm Security Administration and the Public Health Department to protect the helpless poor against those who would debase them morally by taking advantage of their economic destitution for that purpose.

We commend governments, Federal and State, the public and private health agencies, for the efforts they are making properly to restore the self-respect, the human dignity and the economic efficiency of the poor.

We view with interest and approval the growing concern of the Federal Government for the health of all the people.

We believe that labor has a right to a living wage, and that the content of the right to a living wage, adequately defined, includes not merely decent maintenance for the present, but also a reasonable provision for such future needs as sickness, invalidity and old age.

We publicly record our approval of the proposition that "It is sound public policy to expend governmental funds for the care of the individual through private agencies performing a social service."

We find that Senate Bill S. 1620, the National Health Bill, as introduced by Senator Robert W. Wagner, fails to provide adequately or clearly for cooperation of governmental with private agencies.

We note with satisfaction that the Subcommittee of this Senate, to which this bill has been referred, in a preliminary report accepts this criticism with sympathy and has given assurance that it will propose amendments that will correct this defect in S. 1620.

Liberty under law and a spirit of cooperation, animating governments and civic associations, have been powerful factors in the processes by which our nation has grown. Nowhere is this more evident than in the elements which promote general well-being by protecting health and providing medical care.

We, therefore, direct the national officers of the National Council of Catholic Women to bring these our views to the attention of Senators and Congressmen, and pledge ourselves to support them in the states and local legislative bodies.

EDUCATION: In erecting nd maintaining our wide-read system of Catholic hools, it has been the aim our Catholic citizens under e leadership of our Bishops nd priests, to provide for ur Catholic children the best ducational facilities, custo-al and welfare services, uipment, material and op-ortunities, in keeping with e highest American stand-rds.

Catholic teaching is dedi-ted to the sound principle at education for Youth ust comprehend the whole an, body and soul, and must clude intellectual, moral and religious elements. ublic funds are available for the support of every nd of education for American youth, except religious ducation. We are happy to note that certain de-lopments signify a growing recognition of the great ntribution Catholic schools are making to American e, by the extension of certain state services to our atholic schools. We sincerely believe that our democ-cy would be strengthened if this movement would still further and that the American people would me to recognize that there is a fundamental injus-e involved in supporting by public funds only one nd of education.

YOUTH: The deep solicitude of Mother Church now always turns to the building of youth—to the engthening of them for the discharge of the mission right living, a mission which becomes increasingly ar in these conflicting times.

The youth program in many dioceses is being spon-ed by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women der the plan of the Ordinary. The Council, through National Youth Committee, has provided substan-l service in program building, in organization and spiration for these Diocesan Councils believing that uth programs should have the guidance of women aders.

With the hope of further development of its work, National Council of Catholic Women pledges itself full cooperation in those dioceses which are ready initiate youth work.

RETREATS: The National Council of Catholic Women appy to learn of the growing interest in the holding closed retreats and days of recollection. Under the spices of Diocesan Councils these spiritual exercises being held in every part of our country, with the generous cooperation of the clergy and religious communities who make their facilities available for such exercises.

Realizing that the closed retreat is a most important factor in the development of that personal sanctification which is essential to real Catholic Action, the Council pledges itself to give full cooperation to a wider extension of this movement.

INSTITUTE ON INDUSTRY: The National Council of Catholic Women, recognizing the importance of bringing to Catholic women workers a knowledge of those Christian principles which alone will bring economic peace, and recognizing the splendid accomplishment of the three Institutes on Industry held in 1937, 1938 and 1939, pledges itself to continue this work, so successfully begun, in 1940.

The Council would further express very great appreciation to the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference through whose cooperation this work was made possible.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT: The National Council of Catholic Women, while it recognizes fully the importance of giving to women full educational opportunities and opportunities for employment, at the same time recognizes the importance of legislation which would provide for the necessary safeguards against economic and physically and morally harmful conditions of employment, and also the necessity for safeguarding motherhood; and again it reaffirms its opposition to the so-called Equal Rights Amendment and will continue to make known this opposition to our representatives of legislative bodies.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SERVICE: The great and growing need for trained Catholic workers in the field of Social Service throughout the country demands the further development of the program and enlarged facilities in connection with the National Catholic School of Social Service.

It is therefore incumbent upon the National Council of Catholic Women through its affiliated groups to secure the means of meeting annually the operating budget and making available, through an adequate scholarship fund, opportunity for training for capable young women who are not able to secure this training otherwise.

APPRECIATION OF CATHOLIC ACTION

Official Organ of N.C.W.C. and N.C.C.W.

THE National Council of Catholic Women wishes to express its appreciation for the helpful service rendered at all times by CATHOLIC ACTION, the official organ of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Not only has generous space always been accorded to the activities and interests of the National Council and its affiliated units, but it has always manifested a forceful and consistent urging of the principle of national federation and unity to which the National Council of Catholic Women is dedicated.

It is the hope of the Council that the members of the affiliated units of the National Council of Catholic Women will whenever possible secure individual subscriptions to CATHOLIC ACTION to the end that the full program of the Council may be more widely disseminated.

Be it therefore resolved that the National Council of Catholic Women, through its membership, effectively organize plans to meet this need.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA: The National Council of Catholic Women, recognizing the importance of the Catholic University of America to our great national Catholic school system, and realizing that the future growth and development of the University is dependent on the support which shall be given by the Catholics throughout the country, calls upon its members to give every possible cooperation to make this Jubilee Year memorable. The Council wishes in a special way to express to the Rector and the Faculty of the Graduate School of the University its deep appreciation for the recognition given to our great national project, the National Catholic School of Social Service, which recognition has made possible the growth and development of this outstanding institution.

CATHOLIC PRESS: At no time has the power of the Catholic Press for the spread of the truth received such general recognition. On innumerable questions —international, legislative, intellectual—the soundness of its reporting has been impressively vindicated. The National Council of Catholic Women earnestly commends our newspapers and magazines, with the *N. C. W. C. News Service*, for their services to truth in the face of sometimes almost universal misrepresentations. Week by week our Catholic Press has done yeoman service in the spread of light on the Church's activities and teachings.

Once again we pledge our strong and practical assistance in promoting subscriptions and advertising support, and in making more widely known its merits and character and more importantly in constituting ourselves its constant readers.

WORK OF N.C.C.W. PRAISED ON "CATHOLIC WOMEN'S DAY"

TRIBUTE to the notable contributions the National Council of Catholic Women has made to the national life was paid by the Rev. Thomas N. O'Kane, of the Preparatory Seminary of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, in a sermon delivered in St. Mary's Cathedral on "Catholic Women's Day," held in connection with the annual convention of the N. C. C. W.

Acclaiming the organization for having assisted by its activities in implanting the Bishops' Program of Social Reconstruction in minds throughout the land, Father O'Kane said: "The N. C. C. W. has addressed its voice to the ranks of labor, capital, the press, education and government, to point to the truth which would make us free and the error which would bind us slaves. . . .

"As a vigilant guardian of our rights under the Constitution, it has defended the interests of minorities, helped preserve the temper of our national morality from the corrosion of the salacious and made of the nationals within our gates loyal citizens of America. More than anything else, it has drawn from the sacred wounds of Jesus Christ the strength of His supernatural grace, to add to and to elevate the natural graces of American womanhood and make us more and more in the image of the Spotless Mother of God, the Patroness of our America. . . ."

CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED CATHOLIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

September, 1939

Sept. 26-Nov. 22—Catholic Social Action Institute, Richmond, Va.

October, 1939

2-4—National Conference of the Catholic Youth Organization, Cincinnati, Ohio.
6-8—Catholic Laymen's Retreat League—Ninth Annual Convention, Brooklyn, N. Y.
14—Catholic Scholastic Press Association—Northwest sectional meeting, Spokane, Wash.
15-18—National Catholic Rural Life Conference—annual convention, Spokane, Wash.
17-18—Third Order of St. Francis in the United States—national executive board meeting, Washington, D. C.
18—Consecration of the Most Rev. William J. Condon as third Bishop of Great Falls, Mont., at Spokane, Wash.
25-26—Minnesota Council of Catholic Women—19th annual convention, St. Paul, Minn.
25-28—National Catholic Alumni Federation—biennial convention, New York, N. Y.
29—Student Peace Federation—Midwestern group, Joliet, Ill.

November, 1939

4-5—National Catholic Evidence Conference—Eighth annual, Cincinnati, Ohio.
4-7—Catechetical Congress—fifth national, Cincinnati, Ohio.
11—Student Peace Federation—Middle Atlantic group, Dallas, Pa.
11, 12, 13—Commemoration Days, Catholic University Golden Jubilee, Washington, D. C.
14—Catholic University Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington, D. C.
15-17—Annual meeting of the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States, Washington, D. C.

December, 1939

1-2—Sisters of Loretto—seventh annual educational conference, Webster Groves, Mo.
2—Student Peace Federation—Ohio Valley group, Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio.
3-4—Catholic Conference on Industrial Problems—regional meeting, Dubuque, Iowa.
16-17—Student Peace Federation—Lake Erie group, Buffalo, N. Y.

The N. C. C. W. *at* San Francisco

By Lucie J. McAnany

A NECESSARILY brief report of the 19th Annual Convention of the National Council of Catholic Women, held at San Francisco, Calif., September 9-14, 1939, is submitted herewith by a staff member of the N. C. C. W.'s headquarters office. In many respects, the San Francisco meeting outrivalled all previous annual meetings. Data submitted by the national president and the national executive secretary, as printed elsewhere in this issue, are evidence of the progrss of the N. C. C. W. since its inception and especially during the past year. A complete report of the proceedings of the 19th Annual Convention will shortly be available. (See announcement on another page of this issue.)

WORLD-WIDE is the fame of the City of St. Francis, the Golden Gate, and the pride of California, and many are the tales centered round its hills; its breath-taking views, balmy skies and many-hued flowers are but a few of its charms by which it is permanently endeared to the casual visitor as it is to those who call it home. Old landmarks bear silent testimony to the greatness of its history and the vision of the Padres who chose its site; new landmarks, in quiet harmony, evidence the courage and progressiveness of its citizens. Its unique appeal enhanced by the fairyland beauty of the International Exposition at Treasure Island, San Francisco truly had its best foot forward September 9 to 14 when the National Council of Catholic Women, accepting the gracious invitation of His Excellency, the Most Rev. John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco, were assembled for their nineteenth Annual Convention.

Inspired by Holy Father's Message

Encouraged by the message of the Supreme Pontiff, and inspired by the presence of many members of the Hierarchy, the delegates spent the days in serious deliberation, highlighted by the addresses of prominent speakers and social functions of distinction. With the national president, Mrs. Earl R. Reynolds, Chicago, presiding, the general sessions were noteworthy for their efficiency and effectiveness. His Excellency, the Most Rev. Duane G. Hunt, Bishop of Salt Lake, gave the keynote of the convention in his sermon at the Solemn Pontifical High Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral which officially opened the meeting Sunday morning. Pointing out that the collapse of our civilization, now so seriously threatened, is primarily the collapse of ideals, Bishop Hunt especially emphasized that the ideals pertaining to the home, to marriage and to social relationships lie in the sphere of women, who by tradition and nature are idealists. The preservation of these ideals, he said, is the great crusade of Catholic women today.

Archbishop Rummel's Plea for Christian Family

Later this thought was carried even further by His Excellency, the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans and episcopal chairman, N. C. W. C. Department of Lay Organizations, in his address entitled "Restore the Dignity of the Christian Family," wherein he outlined the four sanctities—of marriage, of parenthood, of childlife and of atmosphere—upon which the Christian family, and consequently Christian society, rest.

Mrs. Reynolds, at the first business session, stressed the heavy responsibilities imposed on Catholic women by their sex, religion and citizenship, in her presidential address. Guidance for the coming year and encouragement from the Hierarchy were imparted by the Council's devoted and beloved Episcopal Chairman, Archbishop Rummel, as he greeted the delegates at this session. "Your convention program," he told them, "emphasizes and stresses the importance of

N. C. C. W. APPRECIATIONS

IN ADDITION to the expressions of appreciation printed in the formal resolutions appearing in another section of this issue of CATHOLIC ACTION, the N. C. C. W., at its San Francisco Convention, paid tribute to three N. C. C. W. leaders who have died in the last year: Mrs. W. J. O'Toole, St. Paul, Minn., who attended the Council's organization meeting in 1920 and was a member of the first Board of Directors; Mrs. James Downey, Birmingham, Ala., member of the Board of Directors from 1926 to 1933; and Mrs. Edward A. Skae, Pontiac, Mich., elected to the Board in 1937.

Warm thanks were extended to Archbishop Rummel, of New Orleans, episcopal chairman of the N. C. W. C. Department of Lay Organizations; Archbishop Mitty and Bishop Connolly, of San Francisco; to the other members of the Hierarchy who attended; Monsignor Ready, general secretary of the N. C. W. C.; Mayor Rossi, of San Francisco; and other San Francisco personages, including N. C. C. W. leaders, for their interest and assistance.

building up ever more substantially and broadly the functions which you have found in your experience to be most necessary and most conducive to the welfare of the Church in our country." Archbishop Rummel urged the adoption of a definite program for regional meetings, encouraged the continuance of the Catholic Youth Program of the Council, and the systematic promotion of closed retreats and days of recollection for Catholic women.

Further discussion on the subject of Regional Conferences was held during the business sessions of the following days, and on Tuesday afternoon, in a special panel discussion, the Purpose, Program, Inspiration, Planning and Financing, and the Results of the Dubuque Regional Conference held in May were outlined under the leadership of Miss Lenna M. Wilson, field secretary.

N. C. W. C. Explained by Monsignor Ready

The vision of the Bishops of the United States in establishing the National Catholic Welfare Conference as the coordinating agency for Catholic Action in this country was brought to the attention of the throng which attended the Mass Meeting on Sunday evening at the Memorial Opera House, by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, general secretary, N. C. W. C. An informal panel discussion on the N. C. W. C. at a later session made exceptionally clear to the delegates the tremendous work of the Welfare Conference in all its Departments and Bureaus.

At the Mass Meeting His Excellency, Archbishop Mitty, as host to the convention, greeted his guests and read the message of the Holy Father. The Honorable Angelo J. Rossi, Mayor of San Francisco, extended a warm civic welcome, recalling that several years ago, as Cardinal, our present Holy Father blessed the two beautiful bridges on his visit to the city. As President of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women and on behalf of all its members, Miss Florentine Schage made the delegates and visitors thoroughly happy to have come to the West Coast where there awaited such gracious and cordial hospitality as was evidenced at every moment during the days to come. In responding Miss M. Pauline Casey, first vice president of the National Council, expressed the deep gratitude and sincere appreciation of the guests. Throughout the convention they had occasion to reiterate to the local women their delight as special features of entertainment were interspersed with the more serious meetings. The musical selections at the evening sessions, and the presentation of the pageant "Freighted Galleons," written and directed by Miss Ethel Davis and presented by the pupils of the San Francisco Parochial Schools at the informal reception Saturday evening, were particularly noteworthy.

One of the outstanding addresses was given by Mr. Thomas F. Woodlock, New York City, on "The Real Threat to American Liberties."

Sectional Meetings of N. C. C. W. Committees

The activities of the affiliates of the National Council are coordinated and brought into quick relief at the national convention through the section meetings of the various national committees. These gave an opportunity for the reading of the report of each national chairman summarizing the work in the Diocesan Councils during the past year, and for discussion of topics of special interest. Reports of these meetings were given at the final business session of the convention. Mrs. J. W. McCollum, Gainesville, Fla., national chairman of Organization and Development, presided over a meeting of her committee during which a lively general discussion of problems helped to clear up many difficulties and inspired the leaders to greater efforts. "Proper Housing Essential to Family Life" was discussed by Miss Elizabeth C. Moore, United States Housing Authority, Washington, D. C., and "The Social Life of the Adolescent Boy and Girl," by Mrs. John J. O'Toole, San Francisco, at the Family and Parent Education meeting, over which Mrs. Katherine Murphy Burns, national co-chairman, presided. A large and interested group attended the Publicity Meeting where Mrs. Frederick Murphy, Minneapolis, national chairman, urged the "peaceful penetration" into the press of every hamlet and town with news of N. C. C. W. activities. Mr. Frank A. Hall, director of the *N. C. W. C. News Service,* contributed sound advice and help in the discussions. Problems and needs in the field of Immigrant Aid were thoroughly discussed by all present at the Section Meeting of the Committee on Immigration, over which Mrs. A. J. Aicher, San Francisco, national chairman, presided. The tragic plight of the Catholic refugees from Germany was described by Archbishop Rummel, who is chairman of the Episcopal Committee for Catholic Refugees from Germany, with headquarters in New York City.

Miss Yawman Leads Industrial Problems Discussion

Various points of view—the teacher's, the social workers', etc.—were brought before the Section Meeting on Catholic Parent-Teacher Associations. At the meeting of the Committee on Industrial Problems, with Miss Cecilia M. Yawman, national chairman, presiding, members of the Seattle Diocesan Council carried on a discussion concerning the planning of a diocesan program in this field. A group of members from the Monterey-Fresno Diocesan Council led by Mrs. Earl Bodein gave a demonstration of a study club in action at the Study Club Section Meeting, under the chairmanship of Miss Ella V. Carroll. Other speakers were Mrs. Charles H. Apps, East Orange, N. J., national

-chairman, whose topic was "Integrating a Study ub Program in the Activities of a Larger Organiza- n"; Mrs. Thomas P. Ryan of Minneapolis, who dis- ssed Source Material; and Anna M. Baxter, Dubuque, o talked on "The Value of Knowledge of Art in the udy Club Program."

titute on Industry Described by Miss Bresette

At the general session on Wednestay morning, Mrs. omas E. Ward, Oklahoma City, gave the report of Committee on Special Affiliations, and Mrs. John ll Hood, Jonestown, Miss., who is the national chair- n of the Committee on Shrines in the Home, indi- ed in her report the encouraging growth and devel- ment of this movement in all parts of the country. e Institute on Industry held at the National Cath- c School of Social Service in June under the aus- es of the National Council of Catholic Women and N. C. W. C. Social Action Department, was de- ibed by Miss Linna E. Bresette, who stressed the portance of continuing this annual Institute for ng women workers in view of the splendid results eady apparent.

Inspiring his hearers to even further attacks on rnographic literature which has been the disgrace our newsstands, His Excellency, the Most Rev. John Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne and chairman, Bishops' mmittee, National Organization for Decent Litera- ture, addressed the general session under the auspices of the Committee on Libraries and Literature. Bishop Noll told how the block-booking policy was broken as the campaign spread from one diocese to another until it now covers nearly the whole of the United States, and how the task was made easier as fully nine-tenths of all sellers of magazine literature in every community assured cooperation. "I started by remarking that the first and most important battle has been won," he said. "This does not mean that a permanent victory has been achieved, for that will depend entirely on the activity of the same forces towards keeping the maga- zine racks clean." Bishop Noll continued with an outline of methods to insure the permanent clean-up of newsstands. Mrs. Stephen J. Gaffney, chairman of the National Committee on Libraries and Literature, presided at this session.

Bishop Leech Discusses Religious Vacation Schools

Religious Vacation Schools and how they have been extended and promoted since the organization of a Dioc- esan Council of Catholic Women was discussed by the Most Rev. George L. Leech, Bishop of Harrisburg, at the session of the Committee on Extension of Reli- gious Education over which Mrs. Thomas Dignan, the national chairman, presided. Speaking of the contri- bution of a Diocesan Council to this field of work, His Excellency said:

PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE N.C.W.C.

A CONVENTION feature which aroused keen inter- est and enthusiastic comment among all the dele- gates to the Nineteenth Annual Convention of the Na- tional Council of Catholic Women was the panel discus- sion on the National Catholic Welfare Conference, led by the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Michael J. Ready, general secretary. Gathered informally around a table, nine par- ticipants brought out in a conversation a clear picture of the aims and purposes of this agency of the Bishops of the United States for Catholic Action, and showed how it works in a multitude of fields to unify and stim- ulate Catholic activity.

The general outlines were sketched by Monsignor Ready. By questions and answers, Mr. Frank A. Hall, director of the Press Department, described the world- wide news and other services provided the Catholic Press in America and 25 other countries, and sketched the ex- tent of the Catholic Press itself.

The contributions of the N. C. W. C. Department of Education toward advancement of Catholic schools were enumerated by the Rev. William O'Dowd, assistant superintendent of schools of the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

The great accomplishments of the Social Action De- partment in the field of peace, economics, social justice, family and rural life, and civic education were sum- marized by Miss Linna E. Bresette, field secretary of that department.

Mr. Eugene J. Butler, assistant director of the Legal Department, indicated the extensive and effective work in protecting the interests of the Church in state and national legislation.

The stimulation and help provided by the National Center of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine at N. C. W. C. headquarters in Washington was brought out by Rev. William L. O'Connor, director of the Con- fraternity in San Francisco.

Services to immigrants and the foreign-born at ports of entry and in cities and towns throughout the United States were described by Miss Sarah Weadick, assist- ant to the director of the N. C. W. C. Immigration Bureau.

The organization of Catholic Youth and the helps offered to youth groups were the topics upon which Miss Anna Rose Kimpel, N. C. C. W. field secretary for Youth, talked.

The Department of Lay Organizations was represented on the panel by Dr. John G. Bowen, field secretary of the National Council of Catholic Men, and Miss Mar- garet T. Lynch, assistant executive secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women, both of whom graphically described the work of unifying the organi- zations of lay men and lay women as an integral part of the Welfare Conference.

A large chart at the rear of the platform elucidated for those in attendance the set-up of the Welfare Con- ference and its various departments and bureaus.

The helpful value of this discussion in showing how every organization and every Catholic activity can be- come part of a joint effort for the greater good of the Church in the United States cannot sufficiently be stressed. A clear understanding of the judicious plan of the Bishops will create a greater willingness on the part of organizations and individuals to cooperate in the promotion of united Catholic Action.

"When our Catholic women become duly conscious of the impoverished condition of so many thousands upon thousands of their brethren, even within the Household of the Faith, and of their own personal responsibility and right, as Catholic laity, to take active part in the diffusion and defense of the Kingdom of God, then, and not till then, will we have a Catholic womanhood industrious enough to read and study and meditate upon the eternal truths, proclaimed by Christ and His Church, diligent and devoted enough to make their own homes so many citadels of Christian faith and morality, generous and self-sacrificing enough to lend their talents and their means to bring men to know the true God that they might love Him and serve Him, as they ought, and courageous and heroic enough to do moral combat in their communities for the vindication of the Truth which alone can make us free."

The demonstration on the teaching of religion to a public school group, which followed, aroused much interest.

Diocesan President's Meeting

A veritable institute was the so-called Diocesan President's Meeting, a pre-convention session held for all diocesan, deanery and local leaders and chairmen, for the intensive study and discussion of problems of organization and development. Under the planning and direction of Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. J. W. McCollum, Gainesville, Fla., national chairman of the Committee on Organization and Development, Mrs. J. E. Franchere, Memphis, Tenn., and Miss Edmire E. Quinlan, Green Bay, Wis., national co-chairmen, and Miss Lenna M. Wilson, the participants in the meetings discussed with keen interest such topics as the Function of Diocesan Council Committees and Their Relationship to the National Committee System, the Work of the Diocesan Committee on Organization and Development, Cooperation with Diocesan Directors of Special Projects, the Planning of Diocesan Conventions, the Importance of Accurate and Adequate Records, the Purpose and Value of Deanery Councils, Financing the Deanery Council, Programming Deanery Meetings, Securing and Maintaining the Interest of the Pastors in the Deanery and Diocesan Program, Creating and Maintaining Interest in Parish Organizations, and the Publications of the N. C. W. C. as an Aid to Parish, Deanery and Diocesan Programs.

N. C. C. W.'s Concern for Youth

The interests of Youth were given a great deal of consideration by the Catholic Women assembled at the convention. For the first time an entire day was devoted to this subject, a meeting attended by hundreds of young women and girls being held simultaneously with the Diocesan Presidents meeting on Saturday, September 9. This "Youth Day" opened with a Solemn High Mass at the Mission Dolores Church, celebrated by the Rev. Eugene J. Shea, San Francisco Archdiocesan youth director, during which His Excellency, the Most Rev. Thomas K. Gorman, Bishop of Reno, preached the sermon. Bishop Gorman urged the young people not to turn a deaf ear to those who invited them to join the Catholic Youth Movement, because this movement is worth while not only for this life, but "for that true and lasting life of eternity." His Excellency referred to vocations "in a broader way—of the call to follow Christ as a layman, first in your youth organizations, and later in the various organizations of Catholic women in the diocese."

Bishop Armstrong's Address

The Most Rev. Robert J. Armstrong, Bishop of Sacramento, at a luncheon for the young people and their leaders in the garden of Notre Dame Academy, told his audience that character is built on the old virtues of thrift and industry, and that they should look to the good old values for security and happiness in old age.

Miss Anna Rose Kimpel, N. C. C. W. field secretary for Youth, emphasized the power of "one vital National Catholic Youth Council" as a means of revitalizing old organizations. She proposed organization on a parish basis, with diocesan authority and a national scope; union of all; recognition of age levels; balanced programs; leadership through the Ordinary, clergy, nuns, laywomen leaders, as well as the young people themselves; and a true spirit of Catholic Action to permeate all activities.

Forums in which the young people carried on their own discussions proved of special interest to the leaders who were in attendance.

Address of Miss Hooley

Two outstanding and nationally known leaders and radio speakers also addressed evening sessions on the needs and interests of Youth—Miss Anne Sarachon Hooley, Kansas City, national youth chairman of the N. C. C. W., and Brother Leo, of St. Mary's College, St. Mary's, Calif. Declaring that the world demands so much more of youth today than in former years, Miss Hooley, in her address entitled "Youth Wears the Royal Coat of Arms," said:

"There is no mode of living so vicious, no political plan so unsound that it has not been presented to youth. . . . Catholic youth must have a background of doctrinal truth and the ability to test society's propaganda against this truth. They must have the power to detect the sham from the real, the false from the true, and the tawdry from the beautiful. They have in this doctrinal truth a standard of family life, a standard of social and economic justice, and a wise interpretation of political ideals. They must have so deep

n understanding of this truth that they can live it nd share it."

rother Leo's Address at Closing Banquet

That "Youth in the World Today" requires both xpression and repression was strongly expressed by Brother Leo in his brilliant address at the closing ala banquet. There still remains such a thing as dis- ipline, he said, and the younger a person may be the ore he needs external discipline. It is necessary until nternal discipline develops. The nation's most bril- ant men and women, he continued, have studied and hought and earned degrees, but know they still have uch to learn. Thus it would seem wholesome to in- till some humility into youth. "Manifestly youth ust have development," he declared, "for its im- ortance lies not so much in what it is, but in what it ill be. . . . The youth of today and the youth of to- orrow will fall short of their goal and will pervert he minds of men unless they learn first the answer to he problem of what to do and how to do it. We must ee that youth retains its fine sense of wonder. But e must not say that is all."

Of special importance in view of present world conditions was the International Luncheon at which Catholic women from Latin-America and Canada were special guests. Miss Ann McMaster, president of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, Mrs. Araijo and Miss Araijo, Brazil; Mrs. Maria Dolores Cabanillas MacPherson, Mexico City; and Mrs. Orinda Giannui, president of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, were introduced, and letters of greeting were read from representative Catholic women in Argentina, Mexico, Uruguay, Colombia, Peru and Brazil. Miss Anna Rose Kimpel, who was a delegate to the Youth Section of the Congress of the I. U. C. W. L. in Rome last April, was also presented to the meeting.

International Luncheon Convention Feature

Miss M. Pauline Casey, who presided at the luncheon, stressed the fact that the United States, embracing children of all races, is itself "international in a very fine sense of the word," and pointing out that "each nation and every race has so much of spiritual beauty and cultural traditions to offer to the perfection of the whole human endeavor," she deplored the selfish-

(Turn to page 14)

SPECIAL SESSION ON THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

BECAUSE it is the greatest national project of the National Council of Catholic Women, and further because its importance to humanity and to the life of the Church in this country is a firm conviction of all Council members, an entire general session of each annual convention is devoted to a discussion of the needs and value of the National Catholic School of Social Service. This year a splendid program was arranged and it conveyed to those in attendance an even greater desire to see the School continue its development in accordance with the obvious necessity of these times for trained Catholic Social Workers.

The able and devoted chairman of the National Committee on N. C. S. S. S., Dr. Anna E. McCaughey, presided over the meeting during which the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Thomas J. O'Dwyer, director, Catholic Welfare Bureau, Los Angeles, in an address on the "Field of Social Service" outlined the purposes and methods of modern social work. "The principles of service to fellow men," he said, "of giving understanding and sympathetic assistance to the unfortunate, may have been appreciated intuitively and practiced by some men in early times, but they were not part of any widely accepted doctrine. . . . It is a tribute to the teachings of the Church that the principles of social service are an accepted and vital part of the thinking of today."

Rev. Augustine Hobrecht, O.F.M., pastor of the Old Mission at Santa Barbara, well-known on the West Coast for his educational and welfare work, showed how in the Mission days of California, social service was a definite and important part of the system, and he referred to Junipero Serra as the first social worker of California.

Report of progress and plans to increase the enrollment of the School and to enlarge the School's accommodations were announced by Rev. Lucien L. Lauerman, M. S. S. W., director, who paid a grateful tribute to N. C. C. W. and to the Catholic University of America, with which a closer plan of cooperation has been carried out.

Under the leadership of Miss Clotilde Brouchaud, Little Children's Aid, San Francisco, graduates of the School presented a symposium which indicated the value of their services to the various fields in which they are active.

In presenting the needs of the School, Father Lauerman emphasized the necessity for increasing the maintenance fund by $20,000 in order to meet current expenses and improvements to the building. For the rehabilitation of the library $2,000 was donated by the Catholic Daughters of America; an additional $2,000 for the completion of this work, and $3,000 for the maintenance fund were pledged. The Daughters of Isabella added $20,000 to their pledge of $100,000 to the endowment fund, bringing their contribution up to $80,000, the interest only of this fund to be applied to scholarships for members of that organization. The interest and enthusiasm of the delegates would seem to make evident that there is little doubt not only of securing the remainder of the Maintenance Fund, but the building up of the Endowment Fund as well, that further growth and development may be possible.

Mrs. Arthur F. Mullen, Omaha, national chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, in her report noted encouraging progress.

The Annual Banquet and Business Meeting of the Alumnae Association of N. C. S. S. S. was held in conjunction with the convention, during which Miss Elizabeth Mulholland, of Baltimore, was elected president. Guests at the banquet included Monsignor Ready, president of the Board of Trustees, Father Lauerman, Dr. McCaughey, Mr. Thomas F. Woodlock, of New York, Mrs. Earl R. Reynolds, national president, N. C. C. W., Miss Agnes G. Regan, assistant director of the School, Mrs. Mullen, and Miss Katherine Donohoe, members of the Board of Trustees.

MONTH *by* MONTH

CATHOLIC ACTION

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

"We have grouped together, under the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the various agencies by which the cause of religion is furthered. Each of these, continuing its own special work in its chosen field, will now derive additional support through general cooperation."

—From the 1919 Pastoral Letter of the Archbishops and Bishops of the U. S.

N. C. W. C. Administrative Board

MOST REV. EDWARD MOONEY, Archbishop of Detroit, chairman of the Administrative Board and episcopal chairman of the Executive Department; MOST REV. JOHN B. PETERSON, Bishop of Manchester, vice chairman of the Administrative Board and episcopal chairman of the Department of Education; MOST REV. JOHN A. DUFFY, Bishop of Buffalo, secretary of the Administrative Board; MOST REV. FRANCIS C. KELLEY, Bishop of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, treasurer of the Administrative Board; MOST REV. SAMUEL A. STRITCH, Archbishop of Milwaukee, episcopal chairman, Department of Catholic Action Study; MOST REV. HUGH C. BOYLE, Bishop of Pittsburgh, episcopal chairman of the Legal Department; MOST REV. JOSEPH F. RUMMEL, Archbishop of New Orleans, episcopal chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations; MOST REV. EDWIN V. O'HARA, Bishop of Kansas City and episcopal chairman of the Social Action Department; MOST REV. MARK GANNON, Bishop of Erie, episcopal chairman of the Press Department; MOST REV. JOHN GREGORY MURRAY, Archbishop of St. Paul.

Assistant Bishops, Administrative Board

MOST REV. EDWARD F. HOBAN, Bishop of Rockford; MOST REV. EMMET M. WALSH, Bishop of Charleston; MOST REV. KARL J. ALTER, Bishop of Toledo; MOST REV. FRANCIS P. KEOUGH, Bishop of Providence; MOST REV. WALTER A. FOERY, Bishop of Syracuse; and MOST REV. BARTHOLOMEW J. EUSTACE, Bishop of Camden.

RIGHT REV. MSGR. MICHAEL J. READY
General Secretary

CHARLES A. MCMAHON
Editor

Opinions expressed in articles published in this magazine are to be regarded as those of the respective contributors. They do not necessarily carry with them the formal approval of the Administrative Board, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

BISHOPS' ANNUAL MEETING

The 1939 annual meeting of the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States will be held at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., November 15, 16, 17, 1939.

Pope Pius XII Sends Special Blessing On Bishops' Work Through Legion of Decency

THE Legion of Decency received last month a special Apostolic Blessing from His Holiness, Pope Pius XII. Beautifully illuminated on parchment and personally signed by the Holy Father, the blessing extends to the reviewers and the staff of the Legion of Decency. It was brought to the New York office of the Legion by Martin Quigley, prominent editor and publisher, who, during his recent trip to Europe, was received in private audience by the Pope.

Thirty-eight Members of Hierarchy To Attend Cincinnati Catechetical Congress

ACCORDING to an announcement from the N. C. W. C. Center of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, thirty-eight members of the Hierarchy in the United States have already signified their intention of taking active part in the program of the Fifth National Catechetical Congress to meet at Cincinnati under the patronage of the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati, November 4, 5, 6, and 7, 1939. It is expected that many other bishops from the United States and Canada will also attend.

The Catechetical Congress is the annual meeting of the Confraternities of Christian Doctrine now erected in 15 archdioceses and 80 dioceses of this country. The purpose of the Confraternity, which Canon Law ordains be established in *each* parish, is the religious instruction of those outside of the Catholic school system. The interest of the Hierarchy in the Catechetical Congress is readily understood; the teaching of religion is the apostolate of the Bishops. Their zeal in developing the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine suggests to the laity an important part which the men, women, and youth of each parish can contribute to Catholic Action, which has been officially defined as "the participation of the laity in the apostolate of the Hierarchy." The four-day program will demonstrate how a zealous laity, working in a parish unit of the Confraternity, can assist in the religious instruction of those Catholic children of the parish who are in public schools; in religious discussion clubs for secular high school and college students; in providing opportunities for the non-Catholic to learn the truths of the Catholic religion; and in bringing religion into the home through the parent, who is the child's first teacher. The parish Confraternity offers a work for everyone; a work that is unmistakably Catholic Action.

Bishop Gannon Honorary Chairman of Cincinnati Catholic Evidence Conference

THE eighth national convention of the Catholic Evidence Conference will be held November 4 and 5 in Cincinnati, Ohio, in conjunction with the fifth national Catechetical Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

The decision to hold the conference's meeting here followed an invitation extended by the Most Rev. Edwin V. O'Hara, Bishop of Kansas City and chairman of the Episcopal Committee on the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

The Most Rev. John M. Gannon, Bishop of Erie and episcopal chairman of the Press Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, will be the honorary episcopal chairman of the general meeting to be held the evening of November 4. The Rev. Dr. John J. Russell, moderator of the Catholic Evidence Guild of Baltimore, will preside. Papers at this meeting will be given by Karl H. Rogers, of the Narberth Movement, on "Catholic Information to Millions via Pamphlets and the Secular Press"; Dr. John G. Bowen, of the Catholic Evidence Guild of Washington, on "Radio Broadcasting by the Laity"; and John McAniff, of the Catholic Evidence Guild of New York, on "The Catholic Evidence Guild on the Street Corner."

On November 5 there will be a luncheon meeting for members, reports of committees and election of directors.

Holy Father Lauds Hierarchy on Approaching 150th Anniversary

HIS desire to participate in the observance of the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Hierarchy in the United States was expressed last month by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, when he received in farewell udience His Excellency, the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, before returning to his post in Washington, . C., as Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

THE founding of the American Hierarchy dates from the appointment of the Most Rev. John Carroll, who was consecrated Bishop of Baltimore, August 15, 1790. The Diocese of Baltimore was established April 6, 1789. was elevated to an Archdiocese and its Ordinary named Archbishop on April 8, 1808.

SPEAKING of the Church in America to Archbishop Cicognani, the Holy Father reminded of the sesquicentennial of the American Hierarchy, an event which he characterized as having had a profound influence in the history that great country.

HIS HOLINESS took occasion again to state how greatly he appreciates the work done through the years by the Bishops of the United States, assisted by their clergy, both diocesan and regular, and by the many mmunities of brothers and sisters, who labor in so many fields, notably those of charity, education, culture, nd social welfare.

FOR this reason, the Pontiff said, he wishes to participate personally in the observance, which he linked to anniversaries of two great American institutions of learning. He had reference, His Holiness said, to the golden ubilee of The Catholic University of America and the sesquicentennial of Georgetown University, both in Washgton, D. C.

AGAIN expressing his paternal affection for America and Americans, the Holy Father said memories of the United States, which he visited as Cardinal Secretary of State in 1936, remain always in his heart. The sit was, he said, one of the most beautiful experiences of his life.

THE Hierarchy of the United States and its insular possessions now numbers 165 members. There are three Cardinals, 20 Archbishops, and 134 Bishops active in the various ecclesiastical divisions, and eight Archbishops nd Bishops who have retired.

at Catholics Do at Mass"
e of Dr. Russell's Catholic Hour Addresses

E Rev. Dr. William H. Russell, assistant professor of eligious Education at The Catholic University of ica and head of the Department of Religion at Trinity ge, Washington, will begin a series of five addresses over ation-wide "Catholic Hour" Sunday, October 1, accordo an announcement by the National Council of Catholic producer of the "Catholic Hour." The "Catholic " is broadcast each Sunday evening at 6 o'clock, E.S.T., a network of the National Broadcasting Company gh Station WEAF, New York.

e general subject of Dr. Russell's series of discourses be "What Catholics Do at Mass." The topics are: ber 1, "Gift Giving"; October 8, "God Our Father"; ber 15, "Why a Sacrifice?"; October 22, "The Origin of Mass"; October 29, "What the Mass Expresses."

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tor of N. C. W. C. Legal Department
ient of Catholic Action Medal Award

LLIAM F. MONTAVON, director of the Legal Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, ington, D. C., has been selected to receive the Medal atholic Action awarded by St. Bonaventure College, onaventure, New York. The award will take place banquet to be held at the college October 4, with the Reverend John Mark Gannon, Bishop of Erie and pal chairman of the N. C. W. C. Press Department, rring the honor.

. Montavon will be the sixth recipient of the medal, is awarded annually, with Papal approval, upon the erson adjudged to be outstanding in Catholic Action. It was awarded for the first time in 1934 to former Governor Alfred E. Smith, of New York. The second recipient was Michael Williams, prominent Catholic editor. In 1936 it was bestowed on Joseph Scott, of Los Angeles, noted attorney and orator. Patrick F. Scanlan, managing editor of *The Brooklyn Tablet*, received it in 1937, and last year the recipient was George J. Gillespie, national head of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

In recognition of his outstanding services to his Church, the late Pope Pius XI, in 1929, made Mr. Montavon a Knight of St. Gregory.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace Lauds
Dr. Schmiedeler's "Balanced Abundance" Booklet

"YOU have rendered a real service by writing and having published the little booklet, 'Balanced Abundance,'" the Rev. Dr. Edgar Schmiedeler, O.S.B., director of the Rural Life Bureau of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, is told in a letter he has received from Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace.

"It seems to me that you have done a splendid job," Secretary Wallace says. "I trust that this booklet will be widely read not only in Catholic circles but also elsewhere."

"Balanced Abundance" is a pamphlet in the Social Action Series published by Social Action Department of the N. C. W. C. They represent an effort to present to the general public, and especially to Catholics, a discussion of current economic facts, institutions and proposals in the United States in their relation to Catholic social teaching, particularly as expounded in Pope Pius XI's Encyclical, "Forty Years After—Reconstructing the Social Order." Price of the booklet is 10c.

The N.C.C.W. at San Francisco—*Continued from page* 11.

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE N.C.C.W.

AT THE closing banquet of the Nineteenth Annual Convention of the N. C. C. W., announcement was made of the officers elected for the coming year as follows: National President, Mrs. J. W. McCollum, Gainesville, Florida; first vice president, Miss M. Pauline Casey, Scranton, Pa., second vice-president, Mrs. Thomas Dignan, Glasgow, Mont.; third vice president, Dr. Anna E. McCaughey, Santa Barbara, Calif.; treasurer, Mrs. Stephen J. Gaffney, Portland, Me.; secretary, Mrs. J. E. Franchere, Memphis, Tenn.

New members of the board elected at this convention were Mrs. Michael Keogh, Rochester, N. Y.; Mrs. Arthur Fournie, Belleville, Ill.; and Mrs. William F. Connolly, Detroit.

Mrs. McCollum, Mrs. R. J. Sweeney, Dubuque, and Mrs. John Bell Hood, Jonestown, Miss., were re-elected. Other members are: Mrs. A. J. Aicher, Mrs. Charles H. Apps, Mrs. Katherine Murphy Burns, Miss Ella Carroll, Mrs. Eugene McCarthy, Mrs. Frederick E. Murphy, Miss Edmire E. Quinlan, and Mrs. Thomas E. Ward.

ness, distrust, aggressive tendencies, and hatred that have been permitted to destroy the very soul of international life.

Three speakers especially qualified to discuss International Cooperation made it evident that America has a grave responsibility and an unparalleled opportunity to work for international amity. Miss Hooley, member of the Bureau of the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues, presented a paper from Miss Mary G. Hawks, Buffalo, who was unable to be present, in which the International Union was termed a practical answer to the irresistible logic of the premises that indifference to the natural and supernatural bonds that tie all people of the world together would invite international fratricide and wound the unity of the Mystical Body of Christ. The International Union demonstrates the unity of thought and aim of more than 30,000,000 Catholic women, provides knowledge and understanding of problems, and the N. C. C. W., by its presence on the Bureau of the Union, takes its part in upholding Christian principles in such centers as the League of Nations and the International Labor Bureau.

Dr. Anne Nicholson, of Oakland, Calif., and Mrs. A. S. Musante, of San Francisco, respectively, emphasized the need for more cooperation and solidarity among the Catholic women of the Americas and of national groups within each diocese.

Another luncheon of special significance was held to honor the representatives of affiliated national organizations. Brief talks on "The Woman's Apostolate," brought out the truly magnificent work which these great societies are accomplishing in all parts of the United States. Miss Frances Maher, vice supreme regent, Kane, Pa., spoke for the Catholic Daughters of America; Miss Anna Keady, executive secretary, Washington, D. C., for the Christ Child Society; Mrs. Minerva C. Boyd, past national regent, Chicago, for the Daughters of Isabella; Mrs. William Bell Phillips, Seattle, for the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae; Mrs. Agnes Osterloh, first vice president, San Francisco, for the National Catholic Women's Union; and Mrs. Teresa Ganster, president, Rochester, N. Y., for the Ladies' Auxiliary, Knights of St. John.

The convention closed in splendor with a function long to be remembered for the presence of nine members of the Hierarchy and 1,000 banquet guests. At this session, at which Brother Leo was the chief speaker, Mrs. Reynolds was the honored recipient of a Life Membership in the National Antiquarian Society, proffered on behalf of His Excellency, the Most Rev. Francis J. L. Bechman, Archbishop of Dubuque, president of the Society, by Mrs. Anna M. Baxter, Dubuque.

Miss Agnes Repplier, famous Catholic author, was awarded the Siena Medal of the National Theta Phi Alpha Fraternity, the presentation being made annually at the banquet of the N. C. C. W. Convention to offer public recognition to a Catholic woman who has exemplified distinguished service to Catholic womanhood in America.

The climax of a wonderful week was reached with th premiere presentation in America of Henri Gheon's "Th Marriage of St. Francis," at the Music Hall at Treasur Island which was filled to capacity.

The National Council of Catholic Women is more tha grateful that it was a contribution of the San Francisc Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women to the program Its distinguished author cabled Mrs. Symington that it wa his greatest joy to know that at last his play was to be give its first presentation in English in St. Francis' own city Most inspiring was the interpretation of St. Francis as ren dered by Leon Forbes.

As a parting gesture of cordial hospitality, Mayor Ross of San Francisco and Mrs. Rossi held a delightful reception for the out-of-town delegates in the magnificent San Fran cisco Building at Treasure Island. Refreshments served b little Japanese girls in the colorful costumes of their nativ land, and orchestral and other musical entertainment con tributed to the pleasure of this memorable event.

An unprogrammed event at the National Council o Catholic Women convention paid special and graceful tribut to Miss Agnes G. Regan, for many years executive secre tary of the National Council of Catholic Women.

Miss Regan was honor guest at a breakfast arranged by leading Catholic women of the ecclesiastical provinces o San Francisco and Los Angeles, for a double purpose: t compliment her because, drafted from the West, she has fo years devoted herself so effectively and unselfishly to lead ership of Catholic women, and to signalize the opening o the convention's program dealing with the National Cath olic School of Social Service, Washington, one of the cause nearest Miss Regan's heart.

Guests at the breakfast included all presidents of Dioc esan Councils attending the convention. The Rt. Rev Msgr. Michael J. Ready, general secretary of the Nationa Catholic Welfare Conference, also attended. The affair wa arranged by Mrs. A. J. Aicher, member of the N. C. C. W Board for the Province of San Francisco, and Dr. Anna E McCaughey of Santa Barbara, Board member for the Prov ince of Los Angeles.

An attractive addition to the success of the N. C. C. W Convention was contributed by the *Monitor*, official orga of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, in a special 32-pag convention supplement.

While the convention accomplished much in the actua business affairs of the Council, and served its great pur pose of again tangibly uniting the forces of America Catholic womanhood, its greatest achievement will lie i the good works promoted in the far corners of the countr during the coming year as a result of the renewed inspira tion and enthusiasm of the representatives of affiliate groups and of the new ideas for programming which the carry back to their homes.

ARCHBISHOP MITTY'S WELCOME *to the* N.C.C.W.

HIS warm words of welcome to the delegates and visitors in attendance at the 19th Annual Convention of the Women's Council, the Most Reverend John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco, and host to the meeting, speaking at the Memorial Opera House at the opening Sunday evening Session, first of all read the cable of His Holiness Pope Pius printed below. Joining in the civic welcome of Mayor Angelo J. Rossi and those of Miss Florentine Schage, presi- of the San Francisco Archdiocesan Council, N. C. C. W., Archbishop Mitty said these heartfelt greetings "speak not for themselves but for the entire City and Archdiocese of San Francisco." His Excellency also expressed thanks to brother Bishops, a number of whom had come from long distances to honor the occasion. Continuing, the Achbishop e in part as follows:

N THE history of the Church in any nation, the historian can select several landmarks that mark the progress and the development of religion in country. Here in our own land, starting with the pintment of Bishop Carroll as first Bishop of the ted States, one hundred and fifty years ago, down ugh fifteen decades of time, the Church in America grown beyond all comparison. It numbers today hundred and fifteen dioceses; it has over thirty- thousand priests; its membership includes well twenty millions of the laity.

In the last century, the landmarks were the three t National Councils of Baltimore, which legislated this vast country and its growing population of holics. With the coming of the new century, how-, the Church in the United States seemed to have e of age. First of all, there was the development nterest in mission work, a realization on the part ur Bishops, clergy, and laity of the part Catholic erica should play in the spread of the faith here he missionary dioceses ur own land and like- in the field afar. So ad the organization of Catholic Church Ex- ion Society and later he American Board of holic Missions, to care the home missions in United States; the es- shment of 'Maryknoll' nd priests and sisters he fields abroad and the development of the ry for the Propaga- of the Faith in all our ses. Catholic Amer- was prepared to take lace in the missionary work of the Church. That I consider one of the great landmarks of this century.

"A second landmark was the establishment of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. It took the World War to make us realize that while we were united in doctrine and in morals, while we had the same Mass, the same Gospel and the same Sacraments, at the same time, we had failed to present a united Catholic front on the practical questions that confronted us. And so, out of the stress of the War was born, first, the National Catholic War Council, and then when peace was declared, the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

"ITS purpose was to unify Catholic opinion and Catholic position on the questions of education, of social welfare, of legislation, of social action, and to bring together not only the Bishops and clergy of the United States, but to join with them the fine Catholic men and the fine Catholic women throughout the length and breadth of this land. Out of that was born your organization, the National Council of Catholic Women, uniting the women of every diocese throughout the land; informing them of the common problems that confront the Church in America; informing them of the common work that they could do to deepen and intensify the spiritual life of our land.

"And what a noble response the women of our land have made to the appeal of the Hierarchy to

(*Continued on page* 23)

GREETINGS of HIS HOLINESS, POPE PIUS XII

DURING the 19th Annual Convention of the National Council of Catholic Women the following message addressed to Archbishop Mitty was received from His Eminence Aloysius Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State:

Citta Del Vaticano.

Archbishop Mitty
1100 Franklin Street
San Francisco, California

The Holy Father is deeply grateful for the filial greetings and homage of the members of the National Council of Catholic Women. He urges the continuation of their excellent work. As a pledge of abundant heavenly assistance, he bestows upon the officers and members his Paternal Apostolic Benediction.

Cardinal Maglione.

Dignity *of the* Christian Family

Theme of N.C.C.W. Convention Address by Archbishop Rummel

"RESTORE the Dignity of the Christian Family" was the subject of the main address delivered at the Monday evening general session of the N. C. C. W. Convention by the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans and episcopal chairman of the N. C. W. C. Lay Organizations Department.

The family circle, the Archbishop stated, is "the natural arena for the exercise of Catholic Action" and at the same time the point from which Catholic Action can be inspired, directed and carried into the broader area of human society. Catholic womanhood in the United States, His Excellency added, has set up for itself many laudable tasks of Catholic Action, but that in them and through them must be recognized the influence of the family and of the home.

"If Christianity is to be preserved it must be through the family," Archbishop Rummel declared. "If spirituality is to be re-established it must be through planting deep the roots thereof in the Christian family and in the training of its branches so as to overshadow every phase of human life. If peace is to become a reality and the everlasting possession of humanity, it will come not by dictation from governmental chanceries nor by the legislative acts of parliaments, nor by shrewdly devised treaties and compacts, no not even by the result of so-called peace conferences. Peace can only come when through the teachings, the example and the grace of the Prince of Peace the family, as well as the individual, will devote itself in sincerity to the cultivation of the four-fold sanctities upon which the Christian family and consequently Christian society rest, namely, sanctity of marriage, the sanctity of parenthood, the sanctity of childlife, and the sanctity of atmosphere."

THE Archbishop said it is becoming "a trite common place" to say that "modern life is gravitating back to paganism."

"This paganizing influence is felt in a thousand different ways," Archbishop Rummel added. "It surges in upon humanity from every side almost like the flood of the mighty river that has risen above its banks and sweeps through the valley and over the plains of the countryside with devastating force. This paganizing influence is evident in many forms of modern literature, in amusements, in habits of dress, in education, in the social philosophy that is taught in the schools, preached from rostrums and practically applied by visiting nurses and un-christian social workers. Even our legislatures reveal this paganizing undertone when discussions arise that affect in one way or another the social, moral and educational interests of the citizens. Eminently does this pagan influence manifest itself in the ideologies of the so-called totalitarian governments which have risen to prominence and tremendous power during the present generation. Some of them make a direct issue of crushing Christianity with its faith, its principles, its ideals and its customs."

"Therefore, it is imperative that every effort be made to safeguard the purity and dignity of the family, to protect it against the sinister influence of modern doctrines, to preserve for the present and future generations the priceless heritage of clean, wholesome, dignified and elevating family life."

CALLING the family circle "the dynamo that generates and builds up power for Christian life and Christian doing," Archbishop Rummel said: "If that dynamo be set in motion by Christian truth and Christian ideals of righteousness, then it follows inevitably that all the elements of human life will take on the Christian character and tone."

The family is built up primarily upon the institution called marriage, and "paganism regards this institution as something purely a convenience to be used by the individual for his pleasure, by society for its perpetuation and by the State for the building up of the power by which it rules and conquers." "How different is the Christian concept of marriage," the Archbishop added. "Here we are confronted with a divine institution, which had its origin almost in the moment of man's creation and was lifted up by the Saviour of mankind to the dignity and force of a Sacrament. Marriage now takes on the character of something that is sacred and holy, a bond forged not in a mere agreement to a common life between two individuals, nor just a human contract devised by society to give respectability to a most intimate relationship, nor a compact or charter issued by the State to legalize certain responsibilities that arise from the matrimonial union. Marriage is a bond forged by God, ratified in the highest heavens, with a binding force that no individual or organized human power has the right to tamper with, least of all to break."

THE Archbishop declared that "the modern process of paganizing the family will not be checked until the honor of parenthood is once more recognized in the lofty sense that is in agreement with right reason and faith." "The process of education," the Arch-

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"The Commandment *of* Unity"

Subject of Monsignor Ready's Address at N.C.C.W. Convention

TRESSING the gospel of "liberty in unity," as exemplified by the Bishops of the United States in establishment of the National Catholic Welfare ference and in the work of the National Council Catholic Women, the Right Rev. Msgr. Michael J. dy, general secretary of the National Catholic Wel- Conference, in the principal address delivered at reat mass meeting opening the San Francisco Con- tion of the N. C. C. W., called upon its affiliated nizations and members to fight the onslaught of anism faced by the world today.

escribing in strong terms "this dreadful hour when ons rise against nations in the awful savagery of ," and the assault the world witnesses today against gious faith, Monsignor Ready added this solemn onition: "Religious-minded men and women can- with complacency regard the present cataclysm in ope." Elaborating on the European situation, signor Ready pointed to the recent persecutions eligion by Soviet Russia, the Nazi regime, Mexico, recent struggle in Spain and the more recent Soviet- cooperation.

OMPARING the challenge of religion by "power- mad despots" with the guarantees of religious free- provided in the U. S. Constitution, he declared:

If we fail to use the rich opportunities for Christ ch this nation offers, the failure must be charged er to our weakness in unity than to the strength ur enemies.

If today religion is on the defensive in society, it is use we have dissipated our strength fighting incon- ential battles and running high emotional fevers petty political differences. A laity united under leadership of our chief pastors in the Faith, pledged he vital, dynamic social program founded in Cath- truth, is the one force that must stand invincible nst the modern anti-Christ."

Precisely because of world conditions," declared signor Ready, "the Church in the United States s wider and greater responsibilities. We are pre- ed to acquit these responsibilities now because of far vision and wise leadership of our Bishops."

HEN, holding uppermost before his hearers the need for unity, he sketched the organization, pur- s and history of the National Catholic Welfare ference, noting that it has a program which ches every Catholic in this country."

he Conference, he told the mass meeting, represents e united influence of the Bishops on national social and civic policies, provides a unique, responsible leadership in promoting education, social justice, the Catholic press, and coordinated lay action."

"Its progress," he added, "is as sane and sound and quite as unspectacular as Catholic truth. It aims to bring the strength of that truth to the American society in which it operates.

"When you realize the importance to society of the school, the press, labor unions, industrial institutions, the family, rural economics, legislation, youth, religious institutions, international ethics, immigrant protection, and the lay apostolate—you then begin to understand the tremendous importance and inestimable worth of the program set out for the National Catholic Welfare Conference by the Bishops of the United States.

"In all these interests, both the Church and the Nation have an important stake. If, as we believe, Christian principles underlying man's dignity and destiny must be recognized for the welfare of society, then those principles must permeate the whole breadth of man's social experience."

It was in the belief that "the Church in the United States should never become an isolated factor in our national life" that the Bishops in 1919, with the approval of the Pope, established a central headquarters in Washington, he said.

THEY saw in the democratic institutions of the United States "unusual opportunities offered the Church for carrying out her social mission," and they realized that the Church's great organization in America "needed watchful care, not only in local administration, but in national concerns." A "national emphasis had to be put on such a program if it were to succeed." It was thus the Bishops set up the headquarters and year after year have elected an Administrative Board to direct and supervise the work.

One chief objective is envisaged by the "judicious leadership on the part of the Bishops," said Monsignor Ready—"participation of the laity in their own work of building up and strengthening the Kingdom of Christ in this nation."

He then outlined the function of the National Council of Catholic Women, declaring it has no thought of supplanting or disturbing individual groups, but has "the single objective" of unity. National morality, he said, is much influenced by programs sponsored by women, and here the N. C. C. W. functions.

"The home, the family, youth, public decency, on

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"Unity"—Living Purpose *of the* N. C. C. W.

Mrs. Reynolds Stresses Catholic Women's Part in Bishops' Program

IN HER presidential address delivered at the opening session of the N. C. C. W.'s San Francisco convention, Mrs. Earl R. Reynolds, stressed "striving for unity" as the "very real, very visible and the living purpose" of the National Council of Catholic Women.

"Your presence here today," Mrs. Reynolds told the delegates, "is the supreme manifestation of what nineteen years ago a handful of delegates set out to accomplish—to strengthen the Catholic womanhood of the United States through unity, for you are united, not only those of you before me now, but the millions of women whom you represent in cities and towns perhaps 3,000 miles away."

"This unity," Mrs. Reynolds declared, "being accomplished within our own country has opened to us an opportunity to share in the even greater union of world-wide Catholic womanhood, and because of our participation in the International Federation of Catholic Women's Leagues, we have received direct from Our Holy Father words of encouragement and advice."

"Admirable, indeed," Mrs. Reynolds continued, "it is to find, in traveling about the country and coming in contact with Catholic women and organizations of every type and with interests as varied as human nature, the same spirit of cordiality, the same eagerness to cooperate, the same devotion to identical principles and ideals. . . . The reports that have been made and will be heard here during our deliberations indicate that while our needs may not always be alike; while our talents and abilities may be diversified and given expression according to their particular bent, *our spirit is one. There exists between our national board, our national headquarters, our diocesan councils and every local group a relationship so fundamental and so blessed that we can face the future with the conviction that our efforts will surely meet with success. . . .*

"Despite the fact that we have in the past nineteen years set an enviable record of achievement—perhaps because of it—the future still holds a challenge for us. We are proud of the 64 diocesan councils which to date have been organized and most of which are represented here. But what of the 46 still unorganized? We are proud of our national committees, our study clubs, our youth groups and the 'Call of Youth' broadcasts, and mothers' groups and parent-teacher groups; of our Institute on Industry; of our achievements in helping to rid the country of pornagraphic literature; and most of all of our National Catholic School of Social Service. Could we possibly rest on our laurels at this point? Is it not obvious to all of us who are in the field that the battle is but begun?

"For each affiliated organization there should be ten; for every obscene booklet removed from circulation there should be two books of merit made available; the number of those privileged to come to our Institute on Industry should at least be doubled; and the efforts made on behalf of our School should be triple—yea, even multiplied a hundredfold. On the firm foundation of our nineteen years, let us take on these responsibilities, not as an onerous burden, but willingly and joyously. Let us enlarge our apostolate, seek out new fields of service, enroll new members in this work. Unless we renew our efforts, we are not fulfilling our duties to Catholic Action. . . .

"There is work for each member of every affiliated group. One of the most interesting exhibits at the New York World's Fair is that of General Motors. To the casual observer, the assemblage of the thousands of minor parts is taken for granted, but to the technician the efficiency and effective functioning of the whole is dependent upon the proper placing and dependability of the tiniest bolt in any one of the parts.

"So it is with the N. C. C. W. Upon the integrity and activity of the least important committee in the smallest parish unit depends the success of the whole Council. You who are gathered here are evidencing the smooth functioning of these parts. . . .

"Pride in our organization, our aims, our apostolate is not only legitimate but praiseworthy. Keenly do I sense the greatness of this body of Catholic women and I am humble and grateful that for the past year I have been given the privilege of serving you. Your accomplishments reflect glory on the organization of the Bishops of which we are a part. Your work is a tribute to the guidance of your individual bishops, of our beloved Episcopal Chairman, Archbishop Rummel, and his assistant, Bishop Walsh, of your spiritual directors, and the pastors who are always at hand to encourage and to promote our endeavors."

Proceedings of N.C.C.W.'s 19th Annual Convention

As soon as is conveniently possible there will be made available at national headquarters the printed proceedings of the Nineteenth Annual Convention of the National Council of Catholic Women, held at San Francisco, Calif., September 9-14, 1939. This report will carry in full the addresses briefly digested in this issue of CATHOLIC ACTION *as well as others delivered at the convention.*

Watch for further announcement in CATHOLIC ACTION *and in the N. C. C. W.'s Monthly Message to Affiliated Organizations.*

ROGRESS *of* N. C. C. W. DURING PAST YEAR

As Reported at San Francisco Convention by Miss Regan

EMORY cannot fail to revert to that first convention of the National Council of Catholic Women in the Nation's Capital, October, 1921. Just a year had passed since the Catholic women of the United States under the authority and guidance of the Bishops had set out to bring all into a common union. The value of united action was recog- by everyone. The practical working out of that union is not so easy. Every organization has an individuality rength of its own. In effecting a union, there must be no lessening of the effectiveness of the local unit but rather reased understanding through cooperation with other groups of the great common program of Catholic Action. While still far from the goal envisioned in 1921, the following digest of the report of the National Council of Catholic n as given by Miss Agnes G. Regan, national executive secretary, at the 19th convention shows commendable prog- nd gives promise of even greater accomplishment.

PROGRESS OF ORGANIZATION

v Councils—During the past year three new diocesan ls have been established and four have been reorgan- New Councils include those in the dioceses of Indian- , Grand Rapids and Peoria. Programs for reorganiza- ere undertaken in the Archdioceses of Dubuque and ngeles and the Dioceses of Springfield, Illinois, and iego.

re still remain forty-seven dioceses where formal ization of the diocesan council has not been effected, gh from many of these dioceses a number of individual are registered.

rseas Division, N. C. W. C.—An interesting develop- during the past year was the organization of an as Division of the National Catholic War Council. idea of those organizing the group was, of course, rily the preservation of the associations established those eventful years when the members went over- under the auspices of the National Catholic War il.

rder that they might preserve their identity with the Catholic movement, the Overseas Division has affili- irectly with the National Council of Catholic Women.

MEETINGS

cesan Conventions—During the past year fifty-four an conventions and two state conventions were held. ccess of these meetings is due to the leadership of shop in each diocese and to the general cooperation pastors. Special assistance has been given by the l Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Con- e, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, and his assistant, v. Howard Carroll, and by members of the N. C. W. C. mental staff.

ional Conference—The Council this year made an sting experiment which proved eminently successful. e invitation of Archbishop Beckman, a regional con- e was held in Dubuque, Iowa, May 16-17. This meet- as intended as a model for similar ones in various ns of the country during the coming years. Three ers of the Hierarchy, the General Secretary of the W. C., more than 150 members of the clergy, and over Catholic women, representing 19 dioceses, attended wo-day conference.

ional Convention—In response to the very gracious tion of Bishop Gerow of Natchez, the convention of vas held in Biloxi. Nineteen Archbishops and Bishops, ximately a hundred priests, and 395 registered dele- from 75 dioceses were in attendance.

rnational Union of Catholic Women's Leagues—Nine ed women from thirty-two different countries as- sembled in Rome during Easter Week for the tenth quad- rennial congress of the International Union.

The National Council of Catholic Women has been affiliated with the Union almost since its organization. This year eight delegates represented the Council at this world- wide conference of Catholic women.

Addressing the Congress, Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, said: "There was a time perhaps when the apostolic activity of women could limit itself to safe-guarding and preserving the Christian life of the home. It is not so today when all family life, necessarily and immediately is subject to the social environment in which it is developed. Upon this social environment will depend to a great extent the spiritual fervor of the family, and therefore its moral and religious life. That is why the Catholic woman of today takes cognizance of her social duties. It is in order to comprehend these duties better, through a study in com- mon, that your Congress is in session. It is in order to fulfill them better that the effort of your Leagues is applied. This explains the forms, so admirably varied, of that effort."

The National Council was also represented at the meet- ings of the Youth Section of the International Union by Miss Mary G. Hawks, Miss Anne Sarachon Hooley, national youth chairman, and Miss Anna Rose Kimpel, field secretary for youth activities.

Representation at Catholic Meetings—The Council has officially been represented and participated in the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, the National Catechetical Congress, National Conference of Catholic Charities, in Richmond and Denver, National Eucharistic Congress, Catholic Conference on Family Life.

Representation at Secular Meetings—At the invitation of the Department of Labor, a representative was appointed on the National Committee on Better Care for Mothers and Babies; on the Planning Committee for Conference on Chil- dren in a Democracy; and on the Minimum Wage Confer- ence. The Council was also represented at the American Council of Guidance and Personnel, Cleveland; American Academy of Political and Social Science at Philadelphia; National Parole Conference; American Association of Adult Education.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

National Committee System—In servicing its affiliated organizations, the Council, through a slow process of ex- perimentation and expansion, has developed what is known as the "National Committee System." The following im- portant activities or fields are covered in this network: Family and Parent Education, Study Clubs, Industrial Problems, International Relations, National Catholic School of Social Service, Catholic Parent-Teacher Associations, Shrines in the Home, Youth, Extension of Religious Educa- tion, Legislation, Immigration, Libraries and Literature, Organization and Development, Press and Publicity.

The purpose of a National Committee is to intensify and promote Catholic activities; to unify, coordinate and stabilize programs; to correct information on programs in operation; to bring about a general consciousness of belonging to a united body of Catholic laity.

Study Clubs—The basic activity of most of the National Committees is, naturally, a study of the problems with which they are concerned. Therefore, we have consistently emphasized the work of this committee with increasing vigor and even wider scope.

Reports from 27 dioceses list 3,282 clubs, including 35,538 individuals, with an average attendance of 12 in each group. Were reports available from the 63 dioceses this number would be greatly increased.

Institute on Industry—Sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Women and the Social Action Department of the N. C. W. C., the third Institute was held June 18-24 at the National Catholic School of Social Service. There is no doubt that the young women who have studied at these institutes will become apostles of Catholic philosophy and carry something of their enthusiasm and zeal to their fellow workers. Each seemed imbued with the thought that she had a definite responsibility to do her part in making application of Christian principles in her everyday life.

Youth—During the current year the work has included organization in the Diocese of Mobile—meetings in deanery cities, meetings of youth, and of leaders for leaders' training, conferences with members of the clergy. Similar programs were followed in the Dioceses of Natchez, Nashville and Charleston.

In the spring of 1939, for the third year, the National Broadcasting Company gave the Council the privilege of four months' Leadership Training via the national Red Network hookup.

Immigration—There has been a notable increase in interest in immigration problems in our diocesan councils, not so much with regard to new arrivals since that number has been so greatly reduced, but with regard to definite plans for work in breaking down the barriers which prevent the foreign groups from participating in the national program.

Retreats—Our late Holy Father, Pius XI, pointed out that the first requisite for Catholic Action which he defined as the "participation of the laity in the apostolate of the Hierarchy" is personal sanctification.

Therefore, where practicable, diocesan councils have held closed retreats, utilizing the facilities of convent schools and colleges. Where this has not been possible, and frequently in addition to closed retreats, days of recollection have been planned. The National Council of Catholic Women through its diocesan councils is the logical channel for the development of the retreat movement. It is our hope that every diocesan council through its federated organizations will participate in further development of this movement.

Legislation—Through its *Monthly Message*, the Council has kept its membership informed concerning federal and state legislation in which they should be especially interested. Representatives from headquarters have appeared at congressional hearings to oppose objectionable legislation or to support measures approved by the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

In all its work on legislation, the Council has the unfailing interest and support of the N. C. W. C. Departments of Education, Social Action and Legislation.

LIMA CONFERENCE

The National Council of Catholic Women was deeply interested in the resolution presented at the Lima Conference concerning women's social and civic rights. Repr sentatives of a number of national organizations met t gether as an informal committee and formulated a resol tion which, while it would give a broad outlook on soci and civic rights of women, at the same time would pr serve the principles of protective legislation for women industry and the safeguarding of motherhood.

The official text of the Lima Declaration of Woman Rights and the resolution concerning the Inter-America Commission of Women, embodied the principles that ha been set forth by the committee.

LITERATURE DISTRIBUTED

During the past year, the National Council of Cathol Women has distributed 236,821 pieces of literature, inclu ing 40,879 copies of CATHOLIC ACTION; 44,500 copies *Monthly Message;* 13,107 pamphlets; and 138,335 leaflet

The correspondence for the current year included 7,79 incoming letters; 6,367 outgoing letters; and 28,439 for letters.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SERVIC

Tuesday, June 13, 1939, marked the close of the eighteent year of the National Catholic School of Social Service. Th National Council of Catholic Women has had a real proble during these 18 years in seeking to finance the school an at the same time build up the national organization. In th face of these difficulties, there has been tremendous accom plishment in the sending of 430 trained Catholic worker into the field of social service at a time when that servic is so needed.

The school this year was happy to report a balance budget. The reports show the addition of $3,255 to th Endowment Fund and $10,751.43 to the Maintenance Fund

Special contributions to be noted are the gift from th Daughters of Isabella of $20,000, which now brings th amount of the Fellowship Fund to $80,000, and that fron the Catholic Daughters of America of $2,000 for neede improvements in the library for which great gratitud is due.

EXTENSION OF ORGANIZATION

Extension of the National Council of Catholic Women through its organization in every diocese is an urgent need The united body of Catholic women's organizations, unde the guidance of the Bishops, speaks with a common voice It not only helps to promote particular organization, bu seeks to promote the general welfare of the Church and country.

In addition, the development of the Council would enable it to do more effective work in every field of endeavor. The Council should be able to give its services to those mission parishes in many dioceses which, because of economic conditions, may not be able to meet the small membership fee It should be able to send qualified representatives to all International and National Conferences where the Catholic woman's voice should be heard. It should be able to fulfill its responsibility in the sponsorship of the School without special appeal. All this will be quite possible when the Council is effectively organized in every diocese.

Important Correction

In the September issue of CATHOLIC ACTION, *on page 14, through a proof reader's error, the title of the article by William F. Montavon, K.S.G., read "The 75th Congress—First Session" instead of "The 76th Congress—First Session" as originally submitted by the author.*

Readers holding copies of the magazine for reference or binding should note the correction. While the text obviously refers to the "76th" Congress the editor of CATHOLIC ACTION *regrets the mistake in question.*

YOU *and* YOUR WORLD" STUDY CLUB SERIES

I. Your Worth *and* Your Opportunity

QUOTED above is the general title of eight monthly study club discussions to be presented in this magazine, the first of which is presented herewith. The tentative titles of the other discussions are as follows: "Your School," November; "Your Community," December; "Your Home," January; "Your Leisure," February; "Your Government," March; "Your World Outlook," April; and "Your Job," May.

The N.C.W.C. Study Club Committee, in supplying this timely series, bases its main appeal on the 1919 Pastoral of the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States (see announcement on page 24 of this issue). It is hoped that each monthly topic will be discussed in meetings of Catholic organizations affiliated with the N.C.W.C. and that there will result therefrom a widespread distribution of this important pronouncement, issued twenty years ago but as pertinent today as then as a guide to Catholic living and action.

Correspondence with regard to this particular outline and other study club material is respectfully invited. Address N.C.W.C. Study Club Committee, 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D. C.

I

"IVE me liberty or give me death," said Patrick Henry, and summed up the central political feeling of his ıry. Comfort and security were as desirable to the men ıose days as they are to us—but they were not nearly ear to them as liberty. They realized that they could a measure of comfort and security merely by remainubmissive subjects of what they regarded as the tyrant ss the sea, and that to free themselves of that tyranny d cost them a vast toll of suffering, bloodshed, and n. They chose liberty at the cost of suffering rather comfort at the cost of freedom.

t in our day this condition has been reversed. Unemment, privation, starvation have come closer to us in Patrick Henry's time, and people have been able e how truly horrible they are. And at the same time ıave had a whole array of false prophets ridiculing ıom as "the freedom to starve," and telling us that only way we can have food and clothing and er is by surrendering some of our freedom to a dic-

nen it is a question of whole masses of men being with the dismal and unending alternatives of being fed slaves or free starvelings—or, worse yet, of being not only at the cost of starving themselves but of ing their children—no one can blame the majority chooses security.

t this is a false alternative that has been placed e modern man. He need not be a slave to be secure; possible for him to be not only free but free to eat.

ty of Man Essential

y then have such huge masses of men so readily ted this false dilemma; why have they been so ready ll their birthright of freedom for a bit of food and r, a mere mess of pottage? It is because they were ıred for it by being deprived of an appreciation of rue worth and dignity of man. The men who shaped hinking of the nineteenth century talked to them of emancipation from the old superstitions, the inhibiting l codes and the slavish dogmas, meanwhile convincing that they were soulless products of a material evolu-ry process, no more capable of being *free* in any real than their horse or their cow. They have lost the and the appreciation of freedom because they have he sense and appreciation of their brotherhood with t under the Fatherhood of God. And it is only through overy of that sense and that appreciation that men become able to see through and resist the snares of nodern *isms* that offer them bread and chains. As gnor Sheen expresses it, man will not become free e tyrannies that afflict the world of today until it is ed that man is not a mere "stomach to be fed . . . but a creature composed of body and soul, made unto the image and likeness of God."

II

IF MEN are not creatures of God and answerable to Him for what they do, they can have no norm of conduct save self or society. If self, there is no conceivable way that a recognition of the rights of others can be wrung from them. And even if what they believe to be social good is their yardstick, we have seen that that does not prevent them from murdering tens of thousands of prelates, aristocrats, and kulaks, enslaving millions of peasants, and oppressing whoever interferes with their idea of the good of the state. If man is answerable only to man, why may not a Hitler or a Stalin—in fact, why *should* not a Hitler or a Stalin—conceive himself to be the answeree rather than the answerer? It is only if we are all equally answerable to some Power beyond and above man that we can have any true freedom, indeed, any true security. If the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are to be ours free of any possibility of alienation, it can only be because they are inalienable. Which means they must be God-given; for if they are given by man they can be taken away by man, if they are given by the state they can be taken away by the state.

Human Rights Are God-given

If man is wholly and entirely the creature of God, as he is, then everything pertaining to him, including his rights, has been created by God. And those God-given rights, as we know, are the rights necessary to attainment of final union with God—the right to life, the right to liberty, and the right to pursue one's immortal destiny: "And the Lord God formed man of the slime of the earth: and breathed into his face the breath of life, and man became a living soul" (*Gen.* 2:7). "And God created man to his own image: to the image of God he created him" (*Gen.* 1:27). "This image or likeness lies chiefly in the soul, intellect, and free will" (*New Cath. Dict.*). Thus God, in giving man life, a free will, and a soul with an immortal destiny has set these precious rights beyond the power of alienation by human hands. The Declaration of Independence declares: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal, *that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights*, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Thus the God-given dignity of man is the fundamental principle of our American democracy.

Since God has given man his soul He is more truly man's Father, even in the natural order, than the earthly father to whom instrumentally he owes his body. And, in the supernatural order, when God gave man the free gift of sanctifying grace He made him a partaker in the very life of God, an adopted son of God. (*Gal.* 4:5). The First

Person of the Blessed Trinity is therefore not only "God the Father" in relation to the Trinity, He is God *the Father of all men,* in both the natural and supernatural orders.

The means God chose to give us the gift of sanctifying grace was to send "his Son, made of a woman, made under the law: That he might redeem them who were under the law: that we might receive the adoption of sons" (*Gal.* 4:4-5). God the Son became Man Himself, and while upon earth founded a Divine Church which became His Mystical Body, a Divine Church of which all communicants are in a true sense priests, a Mystical Body of which all in grace are members; and He sent a Paraclete, the Holy Ghost, to dwell in the heart of man (*John* 14:16).

Thus examined, the dignity of man becomes something almost unbelievable. He is not only a creature of God, he is truly a son of God the Father, naturally and supernaturally; he is not merely a creature, nor even a son, able to live only the life that God wills he must live—he has free will, the most precious and the most awful of the gifts of God; he is not an orphaned or abandoned son, he is destined to live forever with his Father in his Father's House; he is not only a son of God the Father but a brother of God the Son and his body a temple of God the Holy Ghost; he is not only a brother of God the Son but, if he wills it, a member of His Mystical Body, the Church; and finally, he is not merely a member of that Mystical Body, but a priest of the "holy priesthood" spoken of by St. Peter (1 *Pet.* 2:5).

III

IF A RENEWED appreciation of the dignity of man is essential to the preservation of human liberty and the continuation of Christian civilization, what can the Catholic layman or laywoman do about it, what *should* the layman or laywoman do about it? Their first duty is individual, their second social, as in any other work of Catholic Action. "Members of Catholic Action must educate themselves in order to educate" (Civardi, *Manual of Catholic Action,* 11). In other words Catholics should first study and ponder and strive to make part of their everyday thinking, this doctrine of human worth, and all its implications, social, racial, charitable, economic: socially, a brief examination of the Christian constitution of states, of the evils of Communist and Nazi totalitarianism, of the way in which the American democratic system accords with Catholic principles; racially, a reexamination of one's innermost attitudes concerning, and behavior towards, the peoples of other racial groups, Jews, Negroes, Orientals, etc.; with regard to charity, a reexamination of one's attitudes toward the poor, the humble, the ignorant, and the physically handicapped; economically, a reexamination of one's attitudes toward the laborer, the farmer, the business man, the industrialist, the financier, toward unions and cooperatives, toward social legislation, and toward all of the many other factors that make up the vast economic complex. Secondly, having seen how the doctrine of human dignity pervades all these spheres, and what a wholehearted acceptance of that doctrine involves in each of them, to carry this message to one's fellows.

Catholic Action by the Laity

The things that lay people can do, individually or corporately, are beyond number. For example, they can:

Read and study these things privately or in study clubs;

Discuss the whole subject at forums or discussion meetings;

Recommend and circulate literature on the subject;

Arrange radio programs on these matters, or listening groups for programs already on the air;

Pass appropriate resolutions at their meetings and see them to publication in the Catholic and secular press;

Take occasion to expound such views at the meetings of the secular organizations to which they belong, such as the various women's clubs, the Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, and other men's clubs, their labor unions, etc.;

Join together to form a free lecture bureau, offering their lecturing services to Catholic and secular organizations;

Write "Letters to the Editor" in the daily press;

Exemplify the doctrine in practical living, succoring the weak and impoverished, visiting the sick and imprisoned, etc., either in a private way or through the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Christ Child Society, etc.;

Join a society for promotion of better interracial relations.

Individual Action vs. Organized Action

The individual can do his bit in leavening the mass with this most useful and most necessary doctrine; but the best way to do it is to do it in an organized way. "To organize for the doing of good is to multiply the good" (*ibid.,* xxi). And the best and most effective form of organization for the Catholic laity is the organization of Catholic Action. "For Catholic Action to exist in the wider sense it suffices that an association or work should have an apostolic scope, and be approved by Ecclesiastical authority. . . . Catholic Action, properly so-called . . . is constituted by that organic whole of associations, in which the laity carry out every form of apostolate for the assistance of the ecclesiastical hierarchy, and not only with its approbation, but at its special behest and in direct dependence on it, and having rules decided on and sanctioned by its authority" (*ibid.,* 2-3). "National unity is necessary if there are to be attained the advantages for the social and public order which the Popes from Leo XIII to Pius XI have expected and demanded of Catholic Action" (Pizzardo, *Conferences on Catholic Action,* 13). This leads direct to the National Councils of Catholic Men and Women. The "chief function [of these councils is that] of coordinating, promoting, and assisting the activities of the Catholic lay organizations of the country, under the direction of the Bishops" (*The National Catholic Welfare Conference,* 38, 41). "Affiliation with these [councils] enables Catholic lay organizations to know the mind of the Hierarchy which must ever be the common guide of all. . . . A Catholic organization is acting out of harmony with the principles of Catholic Action if, without this readily available guidance, it takes a public position on a matter—legislative or otherwise—which affects Catholic interests. . . . Any organization that fails to observe this procedure runs the risk of having its announced program disavowed to the chagrin of the society; to the embarrassment of the Bishops; and to the detriment of the Church" (Statement on Catholic Action adopted by the Bishops of the United States at their annual general meeting in 1936; quoted in *ibid.,* 46).

QUESTIONS

(To be discussed, not merely answered categorically)

1. What is liberty? License?
2. In Patrick Henry's day the few rather than the many were faced with what they regarded as the alternatives of freedom and security. Did that make their choise easier?
3. In Patrick Henry's day men could feel that if they risked all for liberty and won, security would follow. Is that true today; e. g., in Germany or Russia in recent years?
4. Would it be easier to choose liberty at the cost of security if the choice were to affect only one's self, not one's wife and children?
5. Is it really necessary today to choose between liberty and security?
6. What did the leaders of nineteenth century thought teach about the dignity of man, explicitly and implicitly?
7. Why cannot a horse or a cow be free in the sense that free men are free? Is the same true of any soulless product of blind evolution, man or beast?
8. What is the source of human rights?
9. If man has a right to liberty, how can any government undertake to govern him? What and whence the government's rights?
10. How reconcile authority and liberty?
11. What do you mean when you say "Our *Father* who art in Heaven"?
12. How prove that Christ founded a Church? Which Church?
13. What is the Mystical Body?
14. In what sense does St. Peter speak of the lay priesthood?
15. What can you do for the poor?

. What is Catholic Action in the wide sense? In the strict sense?
. What is the National Catholic Welfare Conference? The National Council of Catholic Women? The National Council of Catholic Men?
. What is the difference between Catholic Action and Catholic activity?
. Why should Catholic organizations affiliate with N. C. C. W. and N. C. C. M.?

References

the dignity of man in general:

1. "What Catholics Do at Mass," by Rev. Dr. William H. Russell—N. C. C. M., 15c (*see note below*).
2. "The Prodigal World," by Rt. Rev. Fulton J. Sheen—N. C. C. M., 35c.
3. "Freedom," by Rt. Rev. Fulton J. Sheen—N. C. C. M., 15c.
4. "This Mysterious Human Nature," by Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P.—N. C. C. M., 10c.

cial implications of the doctrine:

5. "Christian Constitution of States," encyclical of Pope Leo XIII—*America*, 10c.
6. "God and Governments," by Rev. Wilfrid Parsons, S.J.—N. C. C. M., 15c.
7. "Citizen, Church, and State," by Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan—N. C. W. C., 10c.
8. "The Mystical Body and Social Justice"—St. John's College, Collegeville, Minn., 35c.
9. "Communism, Racism, and Democracy," by Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan—N. C. W. C., 10c.
10. "American Democracy vs. Racism, Communism," by Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan—N. C. W. C., 10c.
11. "Relations of Catholicism to Fascism, Communism and Democracy," by Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan—N. C. W. C., 10c.
12. "Fascism in Government and in Society," by Rev. John La Farge, S.J.—*America*, 5c.
13. "Making Democracy Work," by Jerome Kerwin—N. C. W. C., 10c.

acial implications of the doctrine:

14. "The Church and the Jews," by a group of scholars—N. C. W. C., 10c.
15. "Why are Jews Persecuted?", by Rev. Joseph N. Moody—Queen's Work, 10c.
16. "A Catholic Interracial Program," by Rev. John La Farge, S.J.—*America*, 5c.
17. "The Negro American," by Rev. John T. Gillard, S.S.J.—Catholic Students Mission Crusade, 50c.
18. "A Study in Black and White," by Thomas Meehan—Our Sunday Visitor, 10c.
19. "Secrets of Chinatown"—Maryknoll, 5c.
See also Nos. 9 and 10 above.

Economic implications of the doctrine:

20. "The Condition of Labor," encyclical of Pope Leo XIII—N. C. W. C., 10c.
21. "Reconstruction of the Social Order," encyclical of Pope Pius XI—N. C. W. C., 10c.
22. "Atheistic Communism," encyclical of Pope Pius XI—N. C. W. C., 10c.
23. "Towards the Reconstruction of a Christian Social Order," by Rev. John P. Monaghan—N. C. C. M., 10c.
24. "Moral Factors in Economic Life," by Rt. Rev. Francis J. Haas and Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan—N. C. C. M., 10c.
25. "Toward Social Justice," by Rev. R. A. McGowan—N. C. W. C., 15c.

On Catholic Action:

26. "Conferences on Catholic Action," by His Eminence Giuseppe Cardinal Pizzardo—N. C. W. C., 25c.
27. "Manual of Catholic Action," by Msgr. Luigi Civardi—Sheed & Ward, $1.25.
28. "The National Catholic Welfare Conference"—N. C. W. C., free.
29. "Just What is the N. C. W. C.?" by Rt. Rev. Michael J. Ready—N. C. W. C., free.

On the Mystical Body and the Lay Priesthood:

30. "The Mystical Body of Christ"—University of Ottawa, Canada, 10c.
31. "The Mystical Body of Christ," by Rev. William McGarry, S.J.—*America*, 10c.
32. "The Mystical Body of Christ," by L. E. Bellanti—Paulist, 5c.
33. "Lay Participation in Christ's Priesthood," by Rev. William A. Kavanagh—Catholic University, $1.00.

NOTE: "What Catholics Do at Mass" is the October, 1939, series in the nation-wide Catholic Hour. The address for October 8, separate reprints of which may be had free of charge on request to N. C. C. M., deals with the Fatherhood of God.

For the convenience of groups wishing to study this outline the National Council of Catholic Men, 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D. C., has offered to take care of prepaid orders for any or all of the above books and pamphlets.

Archbishop Mitty's Welcome

(*Continued from page* 15)

ork together with their Bishops and their priests for God d for Country. The Church of the United States is eply indebted to the National Council of Catholic Women d I am very happy to have the opportunity to give ex- ession to our deep sense of gratitude for what you have complished during these years.

"May I take this opportunity, likewise, to say a word of anks to the Archdiocesan Council here in the Archdiocese San Francisco? They are well organized in the various unties of the Archdiocese and they have given of them- lves whole heartedly in order to build up the Kingdom Christ. I am grateful to them for their great labor, eir sacrificing service, their inspired zeal, for all the help at they have given their priests and their Archbishop in inging this Archdiocese closer to Christ.

"From my heart I pray that during these days the Holy irit will inspire your deliberations. You have accom- ished a great work and yet there is greater work before u Never before in the history of the Church has the urch been so dependent on its laymen and laywomen r Catholic action. It is your privilege and opportunity to ing Christ, His spiritual ideals and His spiritual prin- ples not only into your own lives, but to bring them into e life of the nation. You are going to discover more ays and means of enlarging your influence, of spreading ur work. Your convention and deliberations will open ur eyes perhaps, to a greater vision of what you can do r Christ.

"May Christ bless you! May Christ give you light and rength in your work for God and Country!"

Dignity of the Christian Family

(*Continued from page* 16)

bishop pointed out, "does not begin on the threshold of the kindergarten or the school, nor does it end in the classroom or on the campus. It is a continuous process which has its inception in the family circle.

"The family circle becomes progressively kindergarten, school, college and university all concentrated into one and constituting a wonderful force for good, provided it be properly organized under spiritual ideals."

"The Commandment of Unity"

(*Continued from page* 17)

the stage, screen and printed page," said Monsignor Ready, "are regarded by Catholic women as much more than mere causes for emotional crusades. The united voice of our organized Catholic womanhood must be sounded in the legislative halls and marts of trade if it is to answer successfully the proponents of a way of life that is neither Christian nor American. For 20 years the National Council of Catholic Women has represented in the halls of Congress the Catholic womanhood of this nation in condemning proposed national legislation repulsive to Christian decency. Frequently its work and program have been denied the cooperation and the support which their importance should have elicited.

"Nothing is lost through unity," he declared, "but many worthy Catholic programs have failed because of individual, separatist action. As the Stars and Stripes are the symbol of national unity, so the Cross of Christ is the emblem of Catholic unity."

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